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**USU FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
January 11, 2016
Merrill-Cazier Library, Room 154**

Call to Order

Ronda Callister called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. The minutes of December 7, 2015 were adopted.

University Business – President Stan Albrecht, Noelle Cockett

President Albrecht gave a very brief overview of possible upcoming legislative issues that would affect the University.

Information Items

USUSA Academic Senate Charter Changes – Trevor Olsen. The USUSA has added a monthly meeting with the Faculty Senate President to their charter. They believe this will create a more cohesive working relationship between the two organizations. This regular meeting will create the opportunity for both groups to discuss issues they are working on that might affect the other group and gather feedback and insight.

401.4.2(4) Tabled by FSEC – Ronda Callister. This proposal had to do with identifying federal and state cooperators in the code and was presented to the senate for a first reading. Due to conflicts and inability of the parties involved to come to a consensus on the issue, the item FSEC voted to table the discussion at this time.

405.12.3 CFAC Policy coming in February – Ronda Callister. The College Faculty Appeals Committee proposal that will go along with the post tenure review process changes has been delayed slightly. It will be presented at the February meeting.

Reports

EPC December Report – Larry Smith. Ed Reeve presented the report in Larry's absence. A notable item from the report is the creation of a Certificate of Proficiency for the Aggies Elevated Program. The program helps students with intellectual and developmental disabilities integrate into campus communities. A request from the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation to change the name of the Department to Kinesiology and Health Science due to a decrease in physical education and recreation majors, but an increase in Health Science majors was approved. Also, a request was from the Wildland Resources Department to offer a minor in Wildlife Science was approved.

Council on Teacher Education – Francine Johnson. Shelley Lindauer presented the report in Francine's absence. The college is still being affected by the change in LDS missionary age which is partially accounting for a decrease in student enrollment. Additional contributing factors include their national accrediting body increasing requirements for GPA and ACT and this will continue to be raised over the next couple of years; and the fact that this is an "off year" for the cohort programs.

Scholarship Advisory Board – Taya Flores. The reported GPA in the report is the cumulative GPA as of Spring.

New Business

405.12.1 Annual Review of Faculty (First Reading) – Ronda Callister/Jerry Goodspeed.

This proposal requires that the methods used by each department to review faculty are reviewed and approved by the faculty every three years. The question was raised about defining faculty in the proposal and who should be included.

A motion and second was made that faculty be defined as any voting member. The motion passed with one dissenting vote.

Discussion continued about how faculty is defined in other places in the code. It was suggested that section 401 be referenced in the proposal at the first place that faculty is mentioned. It was clarified that this proposal refers only to the process of how the review is conducted not the content of the review in order to allow the faculty to participate in the process guiding the annual review every year.

Further discussion continued about the annual review and whether or not the department head should be mentioned in this proposal. It was mentioned by a senator that the discussion was beginning to take on a larger scope than this specific proposal addresses.

A motion to approve the proposed code was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to amend the proposal to reference 401.3 and 401.4 after the words “each department” was made by Doug Jackson-Smith and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Discussion

Criteria for emails to all faculty. The Provost reviews all requests from groups who would like to send emails to all faculty on campus. She has been very strict in the past on what gets approved. She has asked that we discuss this as a senate and give her some feedback on the issue. Discussion in the FSEC meeting seemed to indicate that the paper mail was more of a problem and more wasteful than getting multiple emails. Some in the full senate agreed with this while others expressed a concern over too much spam in their inboxes, and that most of the email would not get read, only deleted. Concern was expressed that good information on services and events on campus go unnoticed and the faculty is uninformed. It was suggested that individual senders could be blocked if they were sending too much email. A suggestion was also made that perhaps a weekly email could go out with a list of all of the relevant issues for the week and links to find more information on them if the faculty were interested. This is similar to a newsletter that used to go to faculty on a regular basis in the past.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.